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12 November 1965
SG-65/758

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Meeting with Mr. Gill, Bureau of Budget, on
CIA and Intelligence Community Role in the BOB
"Name Coding and Numerical Identifier Task Force"

Reference: Letter to DCI dated 14 October 1965 from Bureau
of the Budget

1. Reference requests CIA participation in a BOB Task Force to develop and recommend standards for the coding of names of people and the use of numerical identifiers for people. "The word "people"...includes as a minimum (1) civil and military employees of the Government, (2) persons who receive, directly from the Federal Government, benefits from the social welfare, retirement and veterans programs, and (3) persons other than the foregoing whose names are required to be entered in Government systems."

2. CIA and CODIB wished to obviate unnecessary participation in another Committee, the emphasis of which is not related to the processing, retrieval or inter-Agency exchange of foreign biographic data (counter or positive intelligence, security, visas, and criminal files of FBI and name files of the Secret Service and I&NS). We did not wish to take a negative, exclusive approach, which conceivably could have subsequent budget repercussions and create unnecessary stresses, but did wish to propose complementary action between non-USIB and USIB-agencies interests.

3. It was agreed within CIA (in coordination with O/PPB), and within CODIB at its meeting of 4 November, that an informal approach to BOB should be undertaken prior to formulating a reply for the DCI in response to reference. The purpose of the approach was to inform the BOB principal officer, Mr. William Gill, of intelligence community experience to the biographic exchange problem, to offer the Community's experience (on an unclassified or selected, classified need-to-know basis) to the BOB Task Force in the area of personal name handling, but to take the intelligence components of the various agencies and departments out of the continuing BOB committee effort.

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Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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4. The undersigned and [] (Executive Officer, Central Reference and Secretary, CODIB) met with Mr. Gill on 5 November. We explained the foreign intelligence problem (no Social Security numbers, name reporting (e.g., name variants) situation), and in turn gained some insight into BOB's interest in looking for standardization in terminology and coding in government files where inter-Agency exchange exists or is indicated.

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5. It was agreed that:

a. Mr. Gill would brief CODIB Task Team V (Biographics) on the BOB approach to standardization of data elements and codes.

b. Mr. Gill's "Name Coding and Numerical Identifier Task Force" will be briefed on name recording and retrieval problems (unclassified) by the undersigned.

c. A method for exchange of data between the intelligence (CODIB) community and the BOB Team can and should be developed so that each benefits from the other's experience in new methods and techniques, including receipt of excerpts from or a sterile version of the CODIB Task Team report.

d. CIA will advise Mr. Gill in the immediate future as to Agency representation, in a participating or observing capacity, on the BOB Task Force.

e. The BOB group could consider CODIB, in effect, an extension of their deliberations.

6. BOB's orientation and Mr. Gill's remarks are pertinent to the nature of CIA participation. Mr. Gill noted as Chief of BOB's ADP Staff, that the problem of standardization of data elements and codes had unfortunately become associated almost exclusively with Automatic Data Processing. While the advent of the computer world had dramatized the significance and problems in relating the multitude of government files where data exchange is needed, the basic problem was one of developing, with or without ADP, a connected set of management information systems. BOB feels that this is required to make the Federal agencies responsive to highest level requests for data on programs which cut across many agencies. Mr. Gill further noted that, in general, Agencies contribute ADP representatives to the several BOB standardization committees, and though generally excellent as individuals, they put an overstressed ADP slant to Committee deliberations.

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7. In light of Mr. Gill's remarks, [] and the undersigned recommend that a member of the DDS systems group developing the Agency's Management Information System be nominated as the Agency's representative in an observer role since the most immediate impact of BOB's decisions on data standards will involve personnel records of all types; perhaps more important, such observer status will provide O/PPB with a listening post on BOB activities which may affect future budget allocations.

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8. The first meeting of the BOB Task Force will take place on 16 November, 0930 hours, Room 446, Executive Office Building. *

[]
Chief, DDP Systems Group

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* [] did not call [] or me. Per alleged conversation between Col. White and [] of OCS attended this meeting. This was logical choice since [] has worked on both the Security file and the DDS Management Information System (MIS)

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